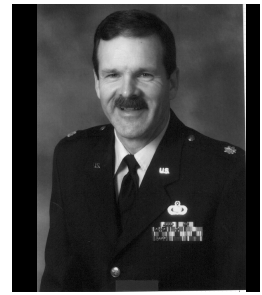# NOTES FROM THE:

Standard Systems Group

by Lt Col John H. Gill

With the year 2000 only 18 months away, I can report all financial system modifications have been completed and will be in place by 31 December 1998. The Y2K effort has been a major undertaking with mission critical implications, especially in the area of financial management. In addition to modifying our systems, close coordination with all interfacing application systems was required to insure data and files would flow correctly to and from our systems once Y2K changes were implemented. Our goal is to field completely tested, certified, and reliable Y2K software changes by 31 December 1998. We are on track to achieve that goal, and I am confident that our systems are ready for operation in the next century. I would also like to take this opportunity to update you on another project, the replacement software for the old DOS based MOOPS/GAMPS utilities.

WinGAMPS/WinMOOPS/WinFrame

In June 1997, DFAS released the first of three programs designed to reduce the financial community's dependence on obsolete DOS programs used to create and process transaction files to our mainframe computers. That program is known as WinGAMPS (Windows General Accounting Micro-computer Processing System).

Using graphical user interfaces (GUI's), WinGAMPS replaces function and hot keys with windows, buttons, and graphics, simplifying user/computer interaction. WinGAMPS also uses InfoCONNECT to provide one-click automatic sign-on capability. WinGAMPS accepts data files from any number of sources including word processors, text editors, DOS MOOPS, and later WinMOOPS. It formats the files into records and transmits the records to the host one at a time or by the thousands. Input accepted, management and reject notices are retrieved by the program and made available to the processor for action as needed. These notice files may be viewed on the screen, modified for re-processing, or printed for further review. The initial release supported only 34 frames designated by DFAS as critical. In the coming months that number would grow significantly as demand warranted.

The second program is known as WinMOOPS (Windows Micro-computer On-line Off-line Processing System). WinMOOPS was initially released on 1 October 1997. Now customers could build transaction files using frames specifically designed for WinGAMPS. With an additional 52 frames, WinMOOPS now supports two-thirds of the total number of frames used by DOS MOOPS.

WinMOOPS has a number of button controls designed to allow the user to easily navigate around in a file, whether it contains just a few records or many hundreds. Many text editing features have been incorporated into the program including mass modification, deletion, and copying. A function is also provided to print the contents of a data file if needed and files may be sorted in any sequence desired. Another feature of WinMOOPS is the field editing function which recognizes the type of character required in each position of a data field. If an error is detected, an audible beep is given and the Edit Status indicator changes to red. Likewise, a green indicator means the field passes edits. It's a small function, but it helps eliminate rejects due to typo's.

The final program to be released went into beta-testing in June of this year. That application, WinFrame, replaces the last MOOPS function not handled by the two previous programs: User-Defined frames. Basically, WinFrame allows users to design their own frames quickly and easily. To do this, WinFrame had to give drag-and-drop and point-and-click functionality to the user, enabling them to make data fields, field labels, and space boxes and the means to position them in a frame. Once all that was accomplished, the resulting product had to be compatible with WinMOOPS and WinGAMPS. After many frustrations and problems, the technical problems were overcome and WinFrame was delivered to DFAS last month.

WinFrame is designed to be easy for the customer to use. After a few minutes familiarization, just about anybody can create excellent quality frames that have that special feeling of personal ownership.

While the three programs are completely separate entities, they work hand in hand with each other to provide the user with fully Windows compatible replacements for DOS MOOP/GAMPS. Each program is accessible from the other two to eliminate the need to close one program to start another. Full Windows Help is provided for all three programs featuring complete term definitions, functional explanations, and recommended processing techniques.

Further enhancements to the trio of programs forecasted include on-line documentation, toolbars, quicker record access, and easier set-up and installation. Be sure to visit our WinMOOPS homepage at http://www.ssg.gunter.af.mil/fin-web/.